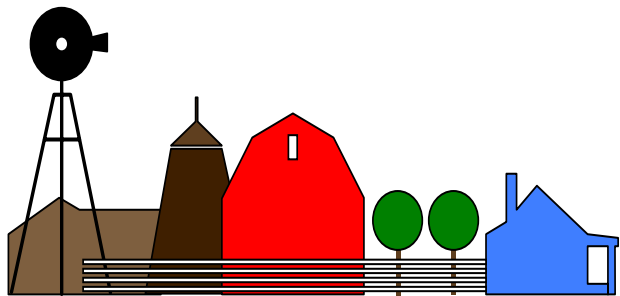


THE FARMSTEAD  
MITCHELL COUNTY  
FARM SERVICE AGENCY



County Committee:  
Jane Wallace, Charles Long,  
Barry McPeak,  
Committee meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays 9:00 a.m.  
Telephone (785) 738-5172  
Fax Number (785) 738-2768  
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Date: May, 2006

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ACREAGE REPORTS

To collect program benefits including loan deficiency payments, crop loans, crop insurance, non-insured assistance program, disaster benefits, and history, crop acreage reports are required.

Many programs require that all cropland on the farm be certified before program benefits can be earned. Each farm must have all cropland acres reported, including old soil bank acres, waterways, feeding lots, feed crops and fallow. The final date to certify wheat and oats is May 31.

The final date to certify corn, milo, soybeans, sunflowers, fallow, alfalfa and other feed crops is August 1. Crops covered in the Non-Insured Assistance Program have earlier dates.

If you have not reported your wheat or oat acres, do so as soon as possible. As soon as you finish planting fall crops, report those acres as well. With our tight budget and increased workload, we most likely will not send out reminders. Therefore, it will be the operator's responsibility to remember to timely file crop acreage certifications.

2006 CROP LOANS

The 2006 crop loan rates for Mitchell County are as follows:

Wheat	\$2.80/bu.
Grain Sorghum	\$3.30/cwt.
Corn	\$1.90/bu.
Oats	\$1.34/bu.
Soybeans	\$4.86/bu.
Sunflowers	\$9.10/cwt.

Other oilseed crop loan rates are available if needed.

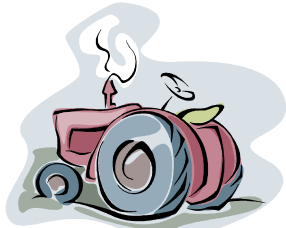
Crop loans are for a nine month period. For grain in the elevator, the warehouse receipt must show storage is paid for the nine month period or the loan rate is reduced. The interest rate for loans disbursed in May is 5.875%. Interest rates change monthly, however the rate is fixed from disbursement to January 1 when it changes to the January interest rate.

Farm stored grain must be in a structure that allows safe and easy access. **There must be sufficient headroom in the bin to allow for inspection, probing and treatment. Permanent ladders must be attached to the bin and bins must be numbered.** These provisions apply whether the quantity is certified or measured.



FAILED CROP CREDIT

Failed acreage is to be reported to FSA before the crop is destroyed to maintain acreage history credit. If the crop is insured, a copy of the appraisal can be filed to verify existence. If the crop is not insured, FSA must make a field visit to verify the crop was planted and document the cause of loss. Separate provisions apply for crops covered by NAP.



LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS (LDP's)

LDP's are direct payments when the posted county price is below the loan rate for the crop. LDP's must be requested before you lose beneficial interest in the crop. You must apply before you lose title to, control of, or risk in the crop.

If you will be selling the crop as it crosses the scales or hauling to a feedlot or ANY other storage facility that is not licensed or bonded, page 1 of the CCC-633EZ must be filed prior to harvesting the crop. If hauling grain to any location other than a licensed and bonded elevator or your own farm, the CCC-633EZ page 1, must be on file prior to harvest, this includes silage.

If feeding or processing grain during harvest, contact the FSA Office for LDP options. Graze out LDP's are available for wheat oats or triticale that are grazed out and not harvested.

**Grain delivered under any name other than the name listed as receiving a share in this office is not eligible for LDP.** Make sure grain is delivered to the elevator or buyer under the proper name and not under a joint account, spouse's name, hired hand, other family member. LDP's must be requested before grain is traded, exchanged, transferred to or from another account, or given to another person or entity. After the LDP is requested and proper production records are provided, you can do what you want with it.

Eligible production evidence for an LDP includes elevator ledgers, FSA bin measurements, sales documents or scale tickets that include crop, crop year, correct producer name, class (like HRW for wheat), net bushels for wheat, corn, soybeans and oats OR, net weight for grain sorghum and sunflowers.

There are many options for filing LDP requests. Make sure you and all those on your farm understand LDP options and rules.

**SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS**

When you sign for an entity or for someone as power-of-attorney, the signature must contain the entity you are signing for, the word “by”, your name and your capacity. Examples follow – John Doe by Jane Doe, Spouse; John Doe by Tim Smith, POA (or agent); ABC Farms by James Smith, Pres; Jane Smith Trust by Jane Smith Trustee. Documents received without proper signatures may be returned which will delay program benefits. If trusts are used instead of an individual, we must be provided a copy of the trust agreement even if the individual’s social security number is used.

**COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION**

The 2006 Mitchell County Committee election will be held in the central third of the county. Nominations must be in by August 1, and are encouraged from minorities and unrepresented groups. Nomination forms and Fact Sheets can be obtained by contacting any county FSA Office or at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/>

Election ballots will be mailed in November and must be returned by December 4. Ballots can not be signed by a power of attorney.

**DIRECT AND COUNTER CYCLICAL PROGRAM**

Contract acres in the Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP) must be maintained all year from weeds going to seed and erosion. This applies to fallow acres as well as acreage planted to crops.

The final date to enroll in DCP June 1. Late filed applications cost \$100.00 per farm.



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All changes of address, operator, ownership, and direct deposit should be reported as soon as they are known throughout the year.

Contact FSA before breaking land, removing tree areas, removing field boundaries, removing farm stored loan grain or planting any crop that might be a fruit or vegetable on contract acreage.

Check your CRP Plan of operations and remember to get food plots planted if they are in your plan.

Weeds/ trees must be controlled on Conservation Reserve acres.  
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**CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM**

C

2006 marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the CRP program. There are celebration events and tours scheduled in Dickinson County on June 7. For event details, contact any Kansas FSA Office.

R

For those interested in managed haying or grazing of CRP, it seems to be back on again for now. A new application must be filed each year before any haying or grazing begins. It is only allowed once every three years on the same acreage and only for some CRP practices. Conservation plans must be revised and approval in writing must be granted before any haying or grazing.

P

Haying is only permitted between July 16 and August 15, no extension for weather or any other reason. Grazing can not begin until July 16 and grazing days depend on stocking rates, not to exceed 120 days. There is a 25% per acre reduction in the annual rental payment for acres actually hayed or grazed. Apply by mid - June if you want to hay or graze CRP.

**NON-INSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Producers in the Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP) for 2006 must report any loss in production within 15 days of the date of loss. With drought, a loss may not be known until harvest, so you would have 15 days after harvest to report a loss.

Acres must be reported 15 days before any haying or grazing takes place. If you applied for coverage on forage sorghum, you must report the acres immediately after planting.

The final date to purchase NAP coverage for the upcoming fall or winter wheat grazing as well as 2007 ornamental and nursery crops, is September 1, 2006. Producers interested in this coverage must file an application and pay a non-refundable administrative service fee of \$100 per crop by September 1.

The final date to purchase NAP coverage on grass (hay, grazing or seed) and alfalfa for the 2007 season is December 1, 2006. The final date to purchase NAP for 2007 feed sorghums is March 15.

Those who received a crop disaster payment and have NAP must provide verifiable production evidence for the covered crop to remain eligible for the disaster payment. If the production will be fed, an FSA measurement is required and sample bale weights.